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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago Wins (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 158 appear in documents A/56/713 and Add.1.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 58th and 60th meetings, on 22 May and 17 June 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.58 and 60).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/825 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/897);

(c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/887 and Add.11);

(d) Progress report of the Secretary-General on the status of the airfield services contract for the Mission (A/56/938);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of a contract for the provision of airfield services in the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/56/906).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.82

4. At the 60th meeting, on 17 June, the representative of Uruguay, Rapporteur of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/56/L.82).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.82 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 regarding respectively, the deployment to the Congo region of military liaison personnel and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1376 (2001) of 9 November 2001,

Recalling also its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000, as well as subsequent resolutions on the financing of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 56/252 B of 27 March 2002,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 30 April 2002, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 102.8 million United States

[1] A/56/825 and Corr.1 and A/56/897.

[2] A/56/887 and Add.11.

dollars, representing some 14.7 per cent of the total assessed contributions, expresses concern that some 20 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the status of the airfield services contract for the Mission,[3] and urges the timely and full implementation of the action plan contained therein;

10. *Also takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of a contract for the provision of airfield services in the Mission;[4]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report further on the status of the airfield services contract in the Mission to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of its resolutions 55/232 of 23 December 2000 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001;

13. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

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[3] A/56/938.
[4] A/56/906.
[5] A/56/887/Add.11.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy, particularly with regard to air transport;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

16. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements for the Mission with regard to the application of article IV of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistical support to the Mission shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

Performance report for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

17. *Takes note* of the financial performance report of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;[6]

18. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 41 million dollars, as previously authorized and apportioned under the terms of General Assembly resolution 55/275 of 14 June 2001;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

19. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account the amount of 608,325,264 dollars for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, inclusive of 581,933,464 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 23,568,200 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 2,823,600 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

20. *Further decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 608,325,264 dollars at a monthly rate of 50,693,772 dollars, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of the same date, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2002 and 2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B also of the same date, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

21. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 20 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 13,105,200 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 at a monthly rate of 1,092,100 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 9,644,200 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the prorated share of 3,209,400 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account

[6] A/56/825 and Corr.1.

for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the increase in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, and the prorated share of 251,600 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the reduction in staff assessment income of that account for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

22. *Also decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 20 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 26,647,600 dollars and other income of 4,136,000 dollars in respect of the period ending 30 June 2001, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B;

23. *Further decides* that for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission their respective share of the unencumbered balance of 26,647,600 dollars and other income of 4,136,000 dollars in respect of the period ending 30 June 2001 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 22 above;

24. *Decides* that the decrease in the staff assessment income of 20,300 dollars shall be set off against the credits from the unencumbered balance in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2001 referred to in paragraphs 22 and 23 above;

25. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

27. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

Annex

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations for the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo until payment is effected.

2. In addition:

(a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for provision of goods and services rendered but not yet verified, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period as well as approved verification reports shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.